

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

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FM AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2041

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMCONSUL BREMEN

AMCONSUL FRANKFURT

AMCONSUL HAMBURG

AMCONSUL MUNICH

AMCONSUL STUTTGART

US MISSION BERLIN 252

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT

SUBJECT: GOETZ AFFAIR - FINAL CHAPTER?

REF: OUR A-103 AND PREVIOUS

1. NRW JUSTICE MINISTER POSSER (SPD) ANNOUNCED YESTERDAY THAT DKP MEMBER VOLKER GOETZ WILL NOT BE APPOINTED TO THE NRW JUDICIARY AND THEREBY PUT A BUREAUCRATIC END TO A CONTROVERSY THAT HAS SIMMERED ALL SUMMER, HAS STRAINED THE NRW GOVERNING COALITION AND TARNISHED THE IMAGE OF THE LOCAL SPD LEADERSHIP.

2. POSSER PUBLICLY DEFENDED HIS DECISION ON NEW INFORMATION WHICH CASE DOUBT ON GOETZ' "COMMITMENT TO FREE AND DEMOCRATIC ORDER". HOWEVER, IT HAS BEEN OBVIOUS SINCE JULY THAT, SHOULD POSSER HAVE CONFIRMED GOETZ' APPOINTMENT, EVEN THOUGH GOETZ MAY HAVE MET THE LEGAL REQUIREMENTS, IT COULD HAVE

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JEOPARDIZED THE SPD-FDP COALITION IN NRW, WHICH ONLY SURVIVES

BY THE NARROWEST OF MARGINS, AS WELL AS ALIENATED SPD CONSERVATIVES.

3. GOETZ' CAUSE HAS BEEN TAKEN UP BY THE JUSOS, JUDOS, AND SOME AMONG THE SPD LEFT WING. MINISTER PRESIDENT KUEHN HAS NOT SHOWN UP WELL IN TRYING TO MAKE THE BEST OF AN AWKWARD SITUATION AND CAN BE EXPECTED TO BE ROUGHLY HANDLED AT THE SPD LAND CONVENTION AT MUENSTER ON SEPTEMBER 30. POSSER, WHO HAS LONG BEEN REGARDED AS KUEHN'S HEIR APPARENT HAS ALSO BEEN HURT. FDP LEADERS INTERIOR MINISTER WEYER AND ECOROMICS MINISTER RIEMER, ON THE OTHER HAND, ARE OBVIOUSLY VERY PLEASED WITH THEIR SHOW OF STRENGTH AND ARE NOW SO COCKY, AS TO MAKE ARCH REMARKS ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY OF A FUTURE CDU-FDP COALITION.

4. THE PRESENT COALITION WILL PROBABLY CONTINUE AND KUEHN WILL SURVIVE MUENSTER, BUT NEITHER WILL APPEAR AS STURDY AS THEY ONCE DID.HENNEMEYER

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